Welford Matters

Issue 8. November/December 2017

Free

Neighbourhood Development Plan Results

Welford on Film!

The River Avon and Welford (part 2)

Plus reports and updates from local clubs and societies

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WELCOME

Happily the village magazine seems to go from strength to strength and in this edition we welcome more businesses that have asked to advertise in Welford Matters. Their contribution helps us maintain the quality and size of the magazine – in fact this issue has 48 pages for the first time since our launch.

I was actually thinking of calling this our "Mistletoe and Wine" edition because, in addition to announcing all the events that are taking place in the village in the run-up to Christmas, we are grateful to Kerry Williams for sending in an article on wine and what we should be thinking about enjoying around this time of year. We have another feature on the Heart of England Forest and how we can get involved. Part 2 of our series on the River Avon and Welford covers the development of commerce on the river and, once again, Glenis Dyer shares with us her knowledge and experience of gardening – this time during the colder winter months. Oh yes, and we've also included a short quiz with sweets and confectionery as the theme – no prizes, just the satisfaction of getting all 25 correct. All I would say is, think laterally!

In the last issue we asked if there was enough support for an LPG buying consortium in the village (similar to the one in place for heating oil purchases - details of which are reprinted on page 21). We had some interest expressed in such an initiative but could do with a few more to make it worthwhile – please email welfordmatters@gmail.com if you'd like to take part. Since the last issue we've had the referendum on Welford's Neighbourhood Development Plan and we include a report on the outcome and what it means for us.

So, as the days get shorter and shopping lists get longer we know that Christmas time will soon be here again! Whether you are driving home for Christmas or staying in Welford waiting for the family to arrive, all the team here at Welford Matters wish you a happy, safe and peaceful time. See you in the New Year.

Richard

Dates for 2018

Issue	Deadline for articles	Publication & Distribution
#9 (Jan/Feb)	17:00 12 Jan	27/28 Jan
#10 (Mar/Apr)	17:00, 2 Mar	17/18 Mar
#11 (May/Jun)	17:00, 11 May	26/27 May
#12 (Jul/Aug)	17:00, 6 Jul	21/22 Jul
#13 (Sep/Nov)	17:00, 7 Nov	22/23 Nov

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COVER PHOTO: Duck Lane by Colin Winston

Cryptic Confectionery

How many can you work out?

(Answers on page 46)

1. Carrier for dairy products _____
2. Sweets for a sporting prince _____
3. 9,10,11 etc _____
4. Heavenly Body _____
5. Edible fasteners _____
6. Pirate's loot _____
7. Sign language _____
8. Where people of a high standard live _____
9. Alcoholic glue _____
10. S before pants _____
11. 100% metal _____
12. Outdoor meal _____
13. Bovine peepers _____
14. Conversation piece _____
15. Witchcraft _____
16. Ottoman's pleasure _____
17. Feline, young and old _____
18. French lightening _____
19. Mediterranean islanders _____
20. Mother's local _____
21. The gardener's favourite chocolates _____
22. Wise guys! _____
23. Wobbly infant _____
24. Fallen fruit _____
25. Dean's bells Al _____

Safer Neighbourhood Team

An update from our Police Community Support Officer

As the Autumn/ Winter months approach it returns to the time of year where we commonly see a spike in the number of reported home burglaries. As a local safer neighbourhood team area (Alcester South), we see a relatively low rate of crime as opposed to other areas of the force but Burglary is always a crime type that needs to be strictly targeted. I would therefore urge everyone to think about your home security. Are your windows shut and locked when you are not at home? Does your shed have an appropriate padlock and alarm? Have you considered home CCTV? Do you make sure that items are not easily left on show such as car keys or laptops etc? Should you wish for some further advice and a home security visit then please feel free to give me a call on 07890512300.

Secondly, you may be aware that there has, in recent months, been an increase in the theft of high valued vehicles such as Audis, Range Rovers and Porsches where the offenders will break into the property and steal the keys whilst the victims are actually at home! If you have a high valued car, can I encourage you to please make every attempt to secure it either by using a garage or ensuring the vehicle has a tracker fitted. Hoping you all have a lovely Christmas!

Becky
PCSO 6093 Rebecca MORRIS
Alcester South SNT
Alcester Police Station
07823533488

Community Speed Watch

The trouble with trying to keep the village informed about the activities of the speed watch team is that we end up preaching about the subject of speed through the village.

Talking recently to a member of another speed watch team he told me about one of their members "catching" his own wife over the speed limit and reporting her. She duly received a letter from the Police but it makes the point that it is so often the villager that is ignoring the speed limit and setting a poor example.

This point was recently further endorsed when a car stopped at our monitoring point and the driver thanked us for our efforts. The unfortunate point about this was that we had recognised the car as being a vehicle frequently monitored at or about 34 mph, (35 mph or over is the reportable limit) when being driven by his wife. Living in the village we should be setting the example.

The small team of people involved in the speed watch team greatly appreciate the thanks support and friendly waves we receive. Unfortunately, we also receive looks that suggest we are "sad old men" with no better things to do, maybe one day.

We cannot expect motorists passing through our village to respect the speed limit if we are not prepared to observe the limits ourselves. Please set the example and make the need for the speed watch team redundant. Thanks to all the team for their efforts.

Ian Edwards
01789750269

Welford on Film

I am sure residents of Boat Lane and Church Street are already aware of the recent filming activity in their neighbourhood. The presence of film crews and actors milling about amongst period props including vintage vehicles and a horse drawn hearse was difficult to ignore.

It is understood that they were filming for a new BBC daytime drama series called Shakespeare & Hathaway – Private Investigators, starring Mark Benton and Jo Joyner. According to a BBC website -

"The ten-part drama from BBC Studios, created by Paul Matthew Thompson and Jude Tindall, will see Frank Hathaway (Benton), a hardboiled private investigator, and his rookie sidekick Lu Shakespeare (Joyner) form the unlikeliest of partnerships as they investigate the secrets of rural Warwickshire's residents.

Beneath the picturesque charm lies a hotbed of mystery and intrigue: extramarital affairs, celebrity stalkers, missing police informants, care home saboteurs, rural rednecks and murderous magicians, embezzling accountants and abducted au pairs, blackmail, comp claims and custody cases, all-night stake-outs and professional hits. Our odd couple of detectives will put the world to rights as they snoop and pry. They disagree on almost everything, yet somehow, together, they make a surprisingly effective team. Although they would never admit it."

Who knew that we lived in such a racy and exciting area, or is it just limited to the residents of Boat Lane and Church Street?

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1st Welford On Avon Scout Group

The summer was a quiet time for our Beaver Colony, Cub Pack and Scout Troop but one person who did not have a quiet summer was Alice Lake! Alice was one of the three people from Warwickshire who were part of the UK Contingent attending the 15th World Scout Moot. She joined over 5,000 young people aged 18-25 from 106 different countries on a ten-day camp in Iceland.

Alice spent her time there in a patrol of ten people, who came from all around the world - Iceland, Mexico, Australia, Portugal, Hungary, Austria and Brazil! For the first half of the Moot, the patrols were spread around about 20 different camps in Iceland. Alice's patrol stayed in Akureyri in the North of Iceland, and had a fantastic time hiking up mountains, swimming in a geothermally heated pool, going on a tour round caves and mud pits, and even visiting a Christmas shop in July!

For the second half of the Moot, all the patrols came back together again and camped at Ulfljótsvatn (the most northern National Scout Centre in the world!), where they took part in a variety of activities, including workshops, outdoor activities, roundtable discussions, challenges, campfires, diverse cultural activities and basically having a great time together.

Alice joined Scouts when she first moved to Welford, and loved it so much that she came back later when she was doing her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award to volunteer as a Young Leader with the Cub Pack. Alice was a great help with the Cubs and then moved on to be a Young Leader with Welford Scouts, as well as joining Explorers (the section for 14-17 year olds) in West Warwickshire. As soon as she reached her 18th birthday Alice became an Adult Leader with our Scouts (one of the youngest leaders the Scout Association has ever had), and moved up to Network (the section for 18-25 year olds). During this time Alice completed her final Duke of Edinburgh Award, achieving the Gold Award.

Currently, she is still very much an active member of West Warwickshire Network, as well as being a member of the Student Scout and Guide Organisation (SSAGO), a national organisation which enables students to continue with Scouting and Guiding whilst at university.

Alice is about to start her second year at university and we are sure she will do well there. We hope that she will continue to be involved with the Scout Association and will store many more memories in the years to come. We also hope that many more of our members will go on to do some out-of-the-ordinary activities with the help and guidance of our leaders.

If anyone is interested in joining us – particularly adult helpers – please get in touch with Maria Smith by email at welfordscoutgroup@yahoo.com

In 1939, my own Father-in-Law, Eric, attended the 3rd Scout Moot at Monzie Castle, in Scotland. 42 countries were represented, many of whom would be fighting each other in the immediate years to follow. Three intrepid youngsters travelled in a small sailing boat from New South Wales, Australia, to attend. They arrived a few days late but were given a thunderous welcome by everyone there. The fee paid for the camp, excluding travel, was £4 per head. Eric had his 20th birthday whilst he was there and had many happy memories of his time at the camp. He kept a diary of the camp and it mentions that he was one of a group who helped to rescue an injured youngster from the slopes of Ben Nevis. The camp ended with a march past on Prince's Street, Edinburgh and a rally at the Scottish Rugby Union Ground at Murrayfield. With World War II on the horizon, it's remarkable to think that Eric arrived home at the beginning of August and, at the start of September, he was called up to the RAF. He grew up very quickly! As a result of the war it was to be another ten years before the next Scout Moot was held.

Cathy Millwood

Hydrangea quercifolia 'Little Honey'

Pittosporum 'Garnettii'

BRIGHTENING THE DARKER MONTHS

Here we are near the end of October, and as I go round the garden collecting flowers to take to a garden club tonight, I am astonished at just how many blooms are available still in excellent condition. True, we have not yet suffered any sharp frosts which will swiftly bring an end to the late summer display, but some plants still astonish. The abutilons, for example, are still in full swing; Abutilon megapotamicum which flowered non-stop throughout last winter, Abutilon 'Burford Belle' (a large flowered, gentle orange), Abutilon 'Red Princess' (a good, deep red), and another very large-flowered orange which has sadly lost its label. All these are planted on a sheltered, south-facing wall, which of course is half the battle to get the most from your plants; put them in a place where they will thrive. Another shrub for a sheltered wall is Coronilla valentina glauca which will also reward you with yellow flowers most of the year.

Good drainage is the key to getting most plants through bad weather!

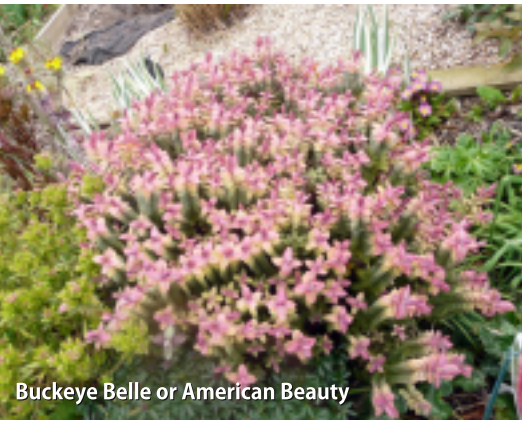
Fuchsias are superb at this time of year, and again will continue until the weather turns very frosty. I have a few charming, small varieties, one called 'Lady Thumb' (there is an even more dwarf variety called 'Tom Thumb'), and a selection of small-flowered enclianthа varieties bought 10-15 years ago as a collection of small cuttings from The Duchy nursery in Cornwall. These have made strong little bushes in a raised bed with good drainage, and flower until Christmas or even later if the season is reasonably kind.

Salvias are full of flower just now, and will continue until the weather turns really nasty; however, do not prune them back until late April, as the old "top growth" will protect the base of these shrubs against severe frosts. Salvias also demand sharp drainage – in fact, good drainage is the key to getting most plants through bad weather.

Many asters are very late-flowering. Aster latiflorus 'Prince' and a tiny, creeping aster called 'Snow Flurry' are starring here at the moment, and of course the flamboyant blooms of nerine bowdenii are wowing all who see them. Their eye-catching "shocking pink" colour and exotic-looking flowers are a total show-stopper. My first Helleborus niger has been out for nearly a month, and I've picked 3 blooms today good enough to use in a flower display. For rich red flowers, heathers such as Erica carnea 'Myretoun Ruby' will grow in any soil, (but Calluna vulgaris 'Dark Beauty' requires acid soil – not likely to be found in this area -) while Erica carnea 'Foxhollow' adds a yellow tint to the garden. For a touch of white, try Erica carnea 'Springwood White'.

Inevitably flowers become more sparse as winter approaches, and here the evergreen shrubs take centre-stage. Shrubs like Skimmia japonica, Camellia japonica, Osmanthus x burkwoodii, Viburnum tinus 'Eve Price' etc will give you wonderful foliage to enjoy (fragrance too with the osmanthus), but look out also for variegated foliage like Euonymus 'Emerald & Gold', E. 'Emerald Gaiety', Pittosporum 'Irene Patterson', Pittosporum 'Garnettii', Weigela florida variegata, and many of the dwarf hebes. ►

Abutilon 'Kentish Belle'


Buckeye Belle or American Beauty

Choisya ternata Sundance - Mexican orange

New foliage on Pittosporum tenuifolium 'Tom Thumb'

Pittosporum tenuifolium 'Irene Paterson'

Convolvulus cneorum

Nerines in snowdrop bed

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Daphne Golden Treasure

Rhododendron williamsianum

"Evergreen" foliage doesn't just have to be green. Golds and yellows can be introduced with small conifers or shrubs like Choisya ternata 'Sundance', Hydrangea querquifolia 'Little Honey', Ilex crenata 'Gold Gem', or Escallonia 'Gold Brian'. Any golden or yellow shrub "pays its rent" many times over during the winter season, brightening the garden outlook.

Silvers and greys can be introduced into the display by using, for example, Artemisias like Artemisia 'Powis Castle', Artemisia 'Lambrook Castle' or Artemisia 'Silver Queen', or the lovely dwarf shrub Convolvulus cneorem, all of which again demand very free drainage. I have had Euryops acraeus (another small silver shrub) in a large trough for 15-20 years now, and also the feathery silver fronds of Rhodanthemum 'Tizi-n-Tichka' (which flowers on and off all winter, and comes from the Atlas mountains in North Africa) in another large trough.

Purple or dark red foliage is yet another "must" when selecting contrasting shrubs to give winter colour. Dwarf Hebes like Hebe 'Mrs Winder' or Hebe 'Pink Elephant' fit in well, as does the superb Pittosporum 'Tom Thumb'.

Certain conifers change colour to reddish-purple in winter (Cryptomeria japonica elegans springs to mind), while others change from their summer green to bright gold in winter. Conifers can also be used to bring the colour blue into the garden. We have a superb 35-year-old Picea pungens 'Hoopsii' (30 feet, growing about 1foot per year), and also a tiny bright-blue miniature spruce (long since lost label, sadly, but still giving us immense pleasure.

Go on, add a splash of colour – there are so many to choose from!

Glenis Dyer

Daphne odora 'Mae-jima'

Aster lateriflorus 'Prince'

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What is Christmas all about?

Many years ago the then Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, wrote about his visit to Bethlehem in connection with the Orthodox Christmas Celebrations. With the Patriarch and many other pilgrims he made his way through the narrow streets of the town to the Church of the Nativity. And then, stooping very low to enter the tiny entrance to the church, he entered a brilliant interior lit with the candles of hundreds of pilgrims. The rich liturgy of the Greek Orthodox Church then began. A lasting memory for him was the moment following the service when they drifted into the lovely Franciscan church next door and a girl's voice started to sing:

'O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie! '

And then, spontaneously, they all took up the carol which rang and rang around the beautifully decorated Church:

'How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven'.

This is the heart of the Christian message. God's gift offered to us all.

'No ear may hear his coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still
The dear Christ enters in'

Archbishop George later wrote : "The important word here is 'meek', or we might say 'humble'. I wonder if the writer of the Carol had in mind that small Crusader entrance which is so low that adults have to stoop to enter. The image bites both ways. Christ stoops so low to enter our hearts - here is a piercing reference to the incarnation! This is the 'dearness' of the Christ who enters human life. But the reverse is true as well; we too must make that journey to 'Bethlehem' and stoop to enter into the fullness of the Christian life"

Christmas is a beautiful season with the most wonderful message of God's decision and action to meet us more than halfway. He has declared his love in the birth and life and death of Jesus his Son. Our response to that immeasurable love is the most important decision of the whole of our lives.

Do come and join us to celebrate God's precious gift to us this Christmas. There are a number of events and services appropriate for all the family (listed in this magazine) and we'd love to see you there.

With my best wishes for a Christ-filled Christmas and a Happy New Year

Rev. Ros Greenhalgh

#GOD with US

Join us in celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, who is God with us, during this wonderful season.

Christmas Services - St Peter's Welford on Avon

Sunday 10th December	10.30am	Service of Celebration with Communion for the re-opening of the church with Bishop Robert. Everyone welcome.
	2-4pm	Church Open for Tea and Cakes with Quiz activities for children
	4pm	Messy Church in Welford Memorial Hall for all the family
Sunday 17th December	9.30am	Service of Holy Communion
	11am	Family Nativity (come dressed as a Nativity Character)
	6.30pm	Carol Service
Sunday 24th December	11am	All are welcome to join the Benefice Service of Holy Communion in Quinton Church
	6pm	Community Carols - Welford Memorial Hall
	11pm	Christmas Communion in St Peter's Church
Monday 25th December	10.30am	Christmas Day Family Service for all

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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

St. Peter's Church, Welford

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Winter flu vaccinations

Reminder for residents to look after the vulnerable in cold weather

As temperatures drop, local NHS and council leaders are urging people to think about how cold weather and winter viruses may affect you, your family and your home.

It's a good time to get prepared now, to keep warm and well over the winter months.

Cold weather can lead to serious health problems and can kill. Older people, those with chronic health conditions and people who have a disability, are particularly at risk during the cold weather. Cold and flu viruses as well as tummy bugs such as Norovirus also start to circulate at this time of year.

Two top tips for getting protected, are to have your free flu vaccination for those entitled, and ensure your home is heated to at least 18C day and night.

Find out more about free flu vaccinations, if you are eligible, please contact your GP, Pharmacy or midwife to book it in.

Help us challenge some of the myths around flu vaccination as it really is one of the best ways to keep well in the colder months.

For anyone living in Warwickshire who needs advice and is worried about keeping their home warm, there is a free service, run by Act on Energy, call 0800 988 2881 or see information leaflet.

Warwickshire fire and rescue service also offer free safe and well visits to help you stay safe and reduce the risk of fire in your home

warwickshire.gov.uk/safeandwellvisit

For information about flu vaccinations, visit:

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For more advice about staying well this winter please see: nhs.uk/staywell

Anne McMahon
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Christmas Good Turn

All Brownies try to Lend A Hand as much as possible, and the girls in Welford decided to do a big Christmas Good Turn by supporting Operation Christmas Child.

The charity aims to fill shoeboxes with toys, stationery supplies, washing items, hats, gloves etc, which are then distributed all over the world to children who would otherwise receive nothing at Christmas time.

In small groups, the Brownies decided on the age group and gender their box would be for and collected items at home that would be suitable.

We then spent a meeting covering the shoeboxes in jolly Christmas paper (harder than you might think!) and filling them with lots of lovely gifts. The girls included a little personal message to the recipients as well.

We were able to deliver 20 boxes to Stratford Fire Station from where they will be collected and sent all over the world.

Thankyou to all the families who donated the £5 admin/delivery fee for each box.

Welford Brownies meet on Thursdays during term-time from 6-7:30pm in the school hall.

Margaret Formby
margaret.formby@btinternet.com
www.girlguiding.org.uk

RAINBOW UPDATE: It looks pretty certain that Rainbows will be starting up in Welford in the New Year. Details will be made available when we have them.

Victorian and Edwardian Photographers in Warwickshire

Our first Welford and Weston History Society meeting of the New Year will be on Friday, 26th January, shortly before the next issue of Welford Matters is planned to be distributed. Hence this early article!

The topic of this illustrated talk is Victorian and Edwardian Photographers in Warwickshire, and our speaker will be David Fry. The meeting will be held at the Memorial Hall, at 7:30 pm. Visitors are welcome.

Here is a resume of the speaker and the talk, plus a photo (above) of Welford Mill taken in 1914, by William Smith of Stratford.

David Fry has been collecting old photographs of Coventry and Warwickshire for almost forty years. Although photography in Warwickshire dates back to the 1840s, it only really took off commercially in the 1860s. Slow exposure times restricted most Victorian photographers to the studio, taking portraits. By the Edwardian period the introduction of postcards, reduced processing costs and quicker exposures took photography out of the studio and into the streets of our towns and countryside . David's talk will reflect both periods giving an insight into the techniques photographers used as well as a practical demonstration of a plate camera from the time. He will illustrate his talk with photographs from his collection focussing as far as possible on those photographers who operated in the Welford area, showing how knowledge of who took what views can help date quite accurately most photographs.

A very (early) Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to you all.

Brad Plimmer

Mike Banning-Lover		750480
Christine Harby	01926	490782
Sue Hook		751400
Mike Kearsey		751383
Paul King		750123
Brad Plimmer		750716

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Welford Flood Action Group

This group was formed a couple of years ago and meets regularly to identify and instigate actions to help alleviate the flooding threats in the village.

It is recognised that some threats will always be present and only a limited series of actions will be viable. For example the river will, from time to time, flood. Defences to protect Welford would not be possible because of the local geography.

There are two cameras recording the river level at Binton Bridges. One camera is managed by the Environment Agency and is available on visionlink welford on avon. Farson Digital Cameras have a second camera which looks at Binton Bridge and also other cameras on the River Avon both upstream and downstream to enable further viewing if required.

It may be of some comfort to know that a lot of work has been taking place upstream which should hold back flood water and allow a more controlled runoff of excess water.

Within the village we have a drainage and sewage system which, at times, is overwhelmed. The problem could only be solved completely by replacing most of the underground pipes and ducts. There is currently no plan to undertake such work. However there are actions, instigated by the Flood Action Group, which will help with the dispersal of water at times of heavy rainfall.

Following the last meeting of the Flood Action Group and representatives of a number of local government agencies, Warwickshire County Council instructed contractors to clean and flush existing pipes and ducts to facilitate a more efficient runoff of water.

Recently these contractors, Three Counties Drainage, excavated the pipework on the Binton Road near the Four Alls. The ducts were found be completely blocked and after two days of jetting with high pressure pumps the sludge was removed. This will eventually allow water to run off Binton Road and travel into the river below the Four Alls.

Further work had been carried out in Church Lane and water can now run into the river more easily.

Jetting has been completed in and around Pool Close and a plan is being formulated to re-instate a ditch from Synder Meadow to allow flood water drain into the river.

Further actions are planned in other parts of the village.

A Flood Resilience Plan is being formulated and will be published next year.

Welford Flood Action Group
welfordflag@gmail.com

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Special seasonal offers available

Allotment News

This time of year, there is plenty to do on the allotment, which might come as a surprise to many people, who may think that the season is over. However, late harvesting of crops is still going on, as is clearing the ground ready for next year. If you walk past the Allotments on fine, crisp winter days you will usually see hard-working folk out there weeding and digging, and having a natter!

This is a great hobby to have, as it gets you out in the fresh air and gives you lots of healthy exercise (and healthy food later on!) We are a friendly bunch of people and if you are new to "growing your own", we are happy to share advice if you need it. The population of allotmenteers in Welford comprises some people with many years of experience and some with none. Whatever your past experience there will always be somebody at your level to talk to.

There are plots of varying sizes available to rent from as little as £7 pa. Ring Linda Horrocks on 01789 750971 if you are at all interesting in taking one, and she will be happy to show you what is available.

Linda Horrocks

Welford Oil Buying Group - Warm up for Winter!

This has been running (very successfully) now for 5 years, during which time we have ordered communally nearly 1,000,000 litres of oil – the current total is nearly 950,000 litres. We save, on average, a MINIMUM of 2ppl on each order, and during the five years the scheme has been in operation we have placed 60 orders, ie about once a month.

Just over 140 households within the village are on the database, and the group has grown in size "by word of mouth". We also have a few members in Temple Grafton, Weston and Binton, but I try to keep the membership within a 5-mile radius of Welford to make deliveries as cost-effective as possible for suppliers.

You may be interested to hear that each month I check the prices quoted by the Long Marston group (which I believe is part of a nationally run group) and on every occasion the price our group has achieved has been lower – possibly because other group organizers "load" their price slightly to offset costs.

If you wish to join the group I need your name, full address including postcode, telephone number and email address and whether there are any difficulties accessing your oil tank; IF YOU ARE NOT ON EMAIL YOU CAN STILL JOIN, but YOU will need to contact ME when you need oil, as I do not have time to ring around those members who are without email contact; running the group takes 2-3 days each month of my time. May I suggest, too, that you do not leave it until you are absolutely desperate for oil before you order!!

Once a month I email all members on the list, with the date I propose ordering, and the deadline by which orders must be sent to me, and I ask that you respect that deadline. Please note that you will have to trust me to get the best price on the day (which I do without fear or favour), as again I do not have time to ring people back prior to their deciding whether to order. Once the deadline has passed, I contact up to 8 local suppliers, and select whoever is cheapest on the day. Surprisingly, it is usually the smaller suppliers rather than the huge national concerns that come up with the best deals! I then email those members who have ordered (ringing those who are not on email) with the price achieved, the supplier selected and their telephone contact number. It is then up to each member who has ordered to contact the supplier FORTHWITH with their (debit) card details – most suppliers charge for using a credit card.

Only if 2 suppliers quote exactly the same price per litre – which happens very rarely – do I go back to those 2 suppliers and ask if they would like to revise their quote.

If you need any further information about the group, my phone number is 750793.

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Scouts get a 'pizza' the action

If you had driven past Barton Meadow (between Welford and Barton) one Sunday in September, you might have wondered what was going on. It was our first ever open-air pizza making day!

The day began with the Scouts preparing a fire pit and using their pioneering skills to build a table and benches out of rope and wooden poles.

The Scouts were joined by Cubs and Beavers, siblings and parents. Each child made their own "oven" – a cardboard box, wrapped in tin foil with a metal mesh shelf.

They then rolled out their pizza dough, added a selection of toppings and cooked their pizzas and garlic slices in their ovens on an open fire.

The pizzas and garlic slices came out perfectly cooked and were very tasty - confirmed by the fact that second and even third pizzas were prepared and eaten!

Thank you to Stuart Formby for organising such a fantastic event and to the Heart of England Forest for allowing us to hold our pizza making day at Barton Meadow.

Information about our local Scout Group (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts) can be obtained by contacting me at welfordscoutgroup@yahoo.com.

Maria Smith

Neighbourhood Development Plan Referendum Results

Welford's Neighbourhood Plan now carries significant planning weight... what a fantastic result and a great turnout...

So, on the 12th October Welford had its own referendum, not for independence but for our own Neighbourhood development plan. **Neighbourhood planning** is a right for communities introduced through the **Localism Act** 2011. Communities can shape development in their areas through the production of **Neighbourhood** Development **Plans**, **Neighbourhood** Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders.

The result:
87% (445) in favour and 13% (67) against, and we had a significantly better than average (32%) turnout at 40%.

This is an important document that puts a local flavour on Stratford's Core Strategy and introduces a few important planning controls, for example;

- It puts a line around the built up area (BuAB) of the village; future development within it is more likely than development outside it.
- It identifies and protects open green spaces and some views of St Peter's Church from certain vantage points in the Parish, such as from Cress Hill and from Welford Hill.
- It identifies an area of land between Welford and Weston that acts as a 'buffer', so that the two villages don't become one.
- ..and introduces a 'dark sky' policy; no street lighting or excessive illumination of properties.

and much more.. please see the Parish Council website at welfordonavon.com for more information.

My thanks go out, once again, to all those people who have contributed over the years, yes years to creating the plan and for all the feedback from residents.

Simon Carter
Chair, Welford-on-Avon Parish Council

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Country Inn at Welford-on-Avon

The Good Pub Guide:
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The Bell is ringing out this Christmas time.
Come join us for good company, fine food & wine.

DIARY DATES

Bubbles and Canapés Before Christmas

Thursday 30th November 2017

A delightful evening with canapes, accompanying champagne of three vintages and the opportunity to brush up on your knowledge of Champagne, as the experts will be on hand. You will automatically be entered into a free draw, with the opportunity to take home champagne and other goodies. Le Brun de Neuville is a small and very well-run champagne co-operative in the Sézanne area of the Marne.

On hand we will have; Amandine Chamoin Volhuer from Le Brun de Neuville & John Leys (Dip WSET) of The Grape Store

Booking is essential and costs only £25 per guest

The Dickens we will!

TUESDAY 12TH DECEMBER

We'll be hosting our popular **Dickensian Evening** from 7pm. Wearing your Sunday best period dress (so no flares or platforms), with Dickensian readings, Christmas Carols and lashings of mulled wine.

Put the seasonal stress to one side for tonight, and join us for this very festive night!

Burns Night Supper

THURSDAY 25TH JANUARY 2018

Dust of the tartan (don't worry, the tartan isn't compulsory) and join us for an enjoyable, but not too serious, celebration of the life and works of **Robert Burns**.

With a delightful three course menu of fine Scottish dishes, poetry reading, addressing the haggis, (not the opposite to undressing it) a few wee drams of whisky and not forgetting to the Piper.

Booking is essential. This evening sells out FAST!

Inclusive 3 course Table d'hôte menu £32.95 per person

Christmas Menu Sample

To run as part of our specials menu from 4th – 24th December

TO START

Fig and Goats Cheese wrapped Filo Parcel *with Cranberry and Chilli Jam* V	7.25
Sloe Gin Cured Gravadlax and Seafood Rillette *with Pickled Cucumber and Parmesan Biscuit*	7.95
Thyme and Caramelised Onion Scotch Egg	7.50
Crispy Beef on Mooli, Spring Onion and Carrot Salad *with Sweet Chilli Sauce*	8.25
Mexican Prawn and Avocado Cocktail *with sliced Bread and Butter*	7.95

MAIN COURSES

Beetroot and Squash Wellington *with a side of Cauliflower and Leek Gratin* V	14.25
Baked Fish Trio (Salmon, Cod and Smoked Haddock). *with Lemon Parsley Butter and Potatoes*	17.95
Fresh Fish, locally supplied catch of the day	TBA
Roast Turkey with Pigs in Blankets, *Apricot and Herb Stuffing, Fresh Cranberries, Roast Potatoes and seasonal Vegetables*	14.95
Oven Roasted Chicken Supreme *with Bubble and Squeak Potato Cake, Parmesan Breaded Baby Carrots, with Gin and Lemon Cream Sauce*	15.95
Blade of Beef Roasted in Red Wine and Onion Gravy, *served on Crushed Root Vegetables*	17.95

PUDDINGS

Our Famous Sticky Toffee Pudding with Vanilla Ice Cream	6.95
Apple and Blackberry Gingerbread Pudding	6.95
Brandy Poached Raspberries and Mascarpone Brûlée	6.95
Panettone Bread and Butter Tart	6.95
Christmas Pudding	6.95

Set Price Menu also available (Pre-order ONLY)

Festive Opening Times 2017

Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December
That's it, the last-minute purchases complete, Christmas wrapped up, the big day all planned, you're a festive athlete. so, join us tonight for some tasty food, before you head off home in a cheerful festive mood.
Food will be served from 11.30am through till 9.30pm

Christmas Day Monday 25th December
Christmas…a time of reflection, a time of good cheer, a time for friends and family at this special time of the year
Join us today with friends and family, for your pre-dinner drinks, and enjoy some complimentary mouth-watering festive canapes too.
12noon until 2pm

Boxing Day Tuesday 26th December
It's not quite over, there's more ahead, if you can't face more turkey, then you know where to head.
And you can tell us about those Christmas presents, whilst you gently munch through your boxing day lunch.
Food served from 12 noon through till 8pm

New Year's Eve Sunday 31st December
If you're heading out tonight and letting down your hair, or staying at home, for a gentler affair, you may fancy something tasty for your last supper this year, so our à la carte menu is just for you (plus our usual Sunday Roast selection available until sold out), exciting and tasty, just what you need, before you head off into New Year's Eve!
Food served from 12 noon till 9.15pm
Bar last orders 11.pm carriages 11.30pm
(gives you just enough time to get back for the fireworks!)

New Year's Day Monday 1st January 2018!
Almost over, but not quite yet. Join us for lunch, don't forget your head! A gentle New Year's Day lunch and those Bloody Marys with or without the punch!
Serving food from 12 noon through till 8pm today.

Colin, Teresa and the team would like to wish everyone a fantastic festive season

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Our personalised gift vouchers can be used at any time of the year. That special occasion, for friends or family, or to simply say thank you! Starting at £10 and increasing by £5 increments you can give as much as you want, for whatever reason you want. You can also include a personalised message.
Ask a member of staff or visit our website.

Community Caring & Sharing

Our **Dickensian Night on 12th December** will be a chance for us all to raise money for Charity.

This year our chosen charity is **Alzheimer's Society** - 'Leading The Dementia Fight', chosen because we are saddened by how many customers, friends and family members are affected by this cruel disease.

It is advisable to book your table in advance for the evening if you would like to join us for this festive event as **we do get booked up quite quickly**.

Alzheimer's Society
United Against Dementia

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Mystery Visitor

First there was the warning to protect outside fishponds from 'Humphrey' the heron and then, last month, Jackie Checketts' report with regard to her snake, 'Hissing Sid'.

Well, some advice please concerning other local wildlife!

Outside our back door, underneath an open porch, we leave wellies and old shoes to slip into for gardening and trips to the bin. On returning from a recent weekend away two pairs of shoes had gone missing. Nearby 'deposits' would suggest that we have a visiting fox, but why would Reynard be interested in our shoes? Or perhaps some other local wildlife – any ideas?

Has anyone else had a similar experience or is it just us who are so privileged?

Bill Hazzledine

'To Bee or not to Bee'

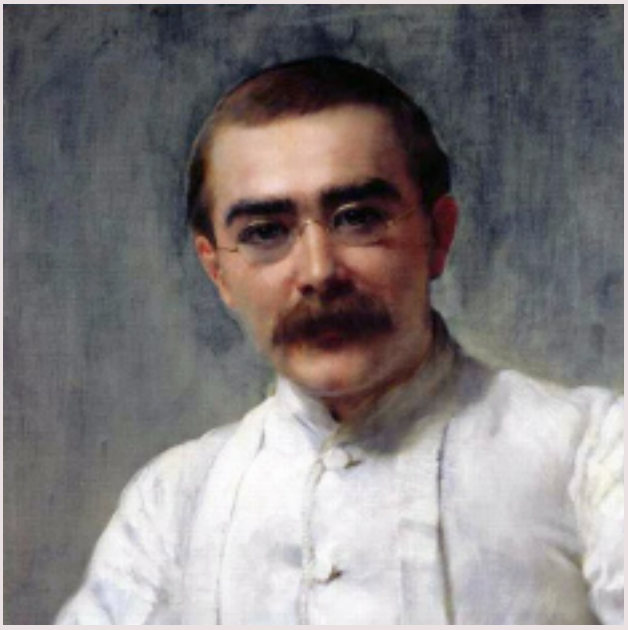
In our November Welford Wives meeting we have had a fascinating talk from our local apiarist, Peter Deakin, about his 50 years of beekeeping. The talk was truly inspiring for anyone who wanted to get started on beekeeping and the honey that Peter's Bees make is exceptional – a great addition to those Christmas Hampers.

In December we have our Christmas lunch at the Three Ways House Hotel in Mickleton – to start the seasonal celebrations.

When we meet again in January 2018, after all of the festivities, it will be to get ready for the year ahead and the marvellous speakers that we have booked.

Welford Wives are a group of around 30 ladies of all ages and If you would like to join in or want to know more about what we do - it's a great way for new or existing residents in Welford to meet new people and engage with the community, so please get in touch with us. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sue Hook 751400
Christine Cooper 750667



An evening with Rudyard Kipling

Long Marston Village Hall, Welford Road CV37 8RH
7:15 pm Sunday, 3rd December
In aid of St James the Great Church, Long Marston

Rudyard Kipling was born in Bombay in 1865. For some twenty years, before the Great War he was the best-selling writer in English. His phrases have passed into our language, more than anyone since Shakespeare … 'On the Road to Mandalay', 'You're a better man than I am, Gunga Din', He wrote some of the best children's stories ever written.

In India in his youth he wrote light-heartedly of the Anglo-Indian social whirl, vividly of the hard lives of soldiers, admiringly of the dedicated men who ruled India. Later he ranged more widely. He died 80 years ago, but is still widely read.

John Radcliffe will tell us something of Kipling's story, providing a brief account of his life and quotations from his stories and poems, John will reveal the man behind some of finest stories ever written.

John spent 30 years in the BBC after graduating from Cambridge and has had a lifelong interest in Kipling. He is actively involved in the Kipling Society and has been its Chairman. He has created its massive web-site, which he now runs from the Old Rectory.

Tickets £7 from the Poppin shop in Long Marston, including a glass of wine. two for £12, concessions £4. For more information call Debbie Woodliffe on 07768 684673

The Stratford and Moreton Tramway

A talk at the Welford and Weston History Society 7:30 pm Friday 24th November at the Memorial Hall, Welford.

Most of you will have heard of George Stephenson (1781-1848) and the Stockton and Darlington railway. The Act of Parliament, that gave the go ahead to this venture, was given Royal Assent on April 19th 1821. But, how many of you have heard of William James (1771-1837) and the Stratford and Moreton tramway? The Act of Parliament, that gave the go ahead to this venture, was given Royal Assent just 6 weeks later, on 28th May, 1821.

In both of these groundbreaking 'infrastructure projects' the traction power was initially envisaged as being provided by horses, which would pull carts or wagons along an iron track. However locomotives were being developed in the North East of England at the same time, and when the Stockton and Darlington railway eventually opened in September 1825, the carts were drawn by a locomotive engine, named 'Locomotion'.

When the Stratford and Moreton tramway opened just a year later in September 1826, horses were still used to draw the wagons. You may wonder why this was the case.

The fascinating story of how the Stratford and Moreton tramway came to be built and the vision shown by our own local railway pioneer William James, will be given in an illustrated talk at our next meeting on 24th November, by Jackie Checketts assisted by Brad Plimmer.
We do hope you can make this meeting.
Brad Plimmer

Happy Endings

We have had some happy endings at Avon Cat Rescue in the last couple of months, including one for Cilla, a grumpy elderly tabby who had been waiting a long time to find a forever home.

She was returned to us twice for bad behaviour, but now she has been chosen by someone who will keep her, no matter what she does. She has found her place at last. Now we need to find more of the same for some of our other harder-to-home cats.

Coming up we have lots of market stalls in the run up to Christmas, including Stratford, Alcester, Leamington and Shipston. We also receive many donations of food, blankets, bedding and toys for the cats for Christmas. It is always heartening to meet so many well-wishers at this time of year.
Rosemary Spicer
www.avoncatrescue.org

Welford School History Society

This term, we have welcomed both existing and new members to the Welford School, History Society, to cultivate their passion for history. Each member of this after school club is becoming a real historian, by researching any topic of their choice and creating a high quality portfolio of primary and secondary sources to keep forever. We hope to be able to share some of the topics chosen with you, in the next issue of Welford Matters.
Charlotte Moss (year 5 teacher)
Brad Plimmer

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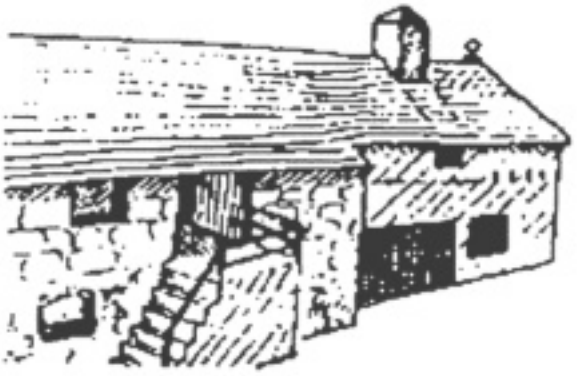

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Preparing for Christmas

The Methodist hierarchy, communicating through our newspaper, The Methodist Recorder, at our Autumn synods and through various online channels, has been reflecting somewhat mournfully on the diminishing and ageing number of people who are prepared to 'sign up' to formal Methodist membership, the traditional way of 'being a Methodist'.

Recently though, I read a letter protesting that formal members are not the only people who are linked with and supportive of our church, so just counting heads at Sunday services does not really reveal the health of the church.

Buildings have been adapted to cater, throughout the week, for a wide variety of activities, often involving sharing or even cooking food. Bread making is very popular in some places and we even had a Ministerial Synod, where we all made two loaves, one to eat and one to give away. As in other churches, there are food banks, 'Messy Church' craft activities, play areas, links with surfers at the seaside, protests against injustice, work with refugees, the elderly, people with domestic or physical difficulties, an enormous amount of money raised for a wide variety of charities both here and farther afield. The list of commitment and ingenuity seems endless.

It is awesome to reflect as we prepare to celebrate Christmas once again, that all this began with a refugee baby, born in Bethlehem more than two thousand years ago. A new carol written by Iona authors, John Bell and Graham Maule, and sung to a popular tune called Scarlet Ribbons, asks, 'Who would think that what was needed to transform and change the earth, might not be a plan or army? Who would think, despite derision, that a child might lead the way?'

Yet this is exactly what we are celebrating at Christmas. The much loved baby Jesus, laid in a manger, but undefeated, even by death on a cross, reveals to us, through his teaching and actions and the power of God's Holy Spirit, that there is more to life than merely practising religious rituals. The heart of worship, genuine love for God, is most clearly revealed by love for those around us, near and far. As we celebrate Christmas this year, with more than usual people attending worship for the familiar carol services, let us commit ourselves to living out in our everyday way of life the sometimes costly love that Jesus demonstrated for us. May this Christmas bring both joy and commitment as we celebrate again the baby in the manger.

Ros Murphy

Welford Methodist Services

all at 11 am unless otherwise indicated

December

Sunday 3rd	Morning Worship led by Mr John Parkes
Sunday 10th	Holy Communion led by Rev Ros Murphy
Sunday 17th	Carol Service arranged and led by the congregation
Sunday 24th	No service. Worship at 10.30 at Mickleton, Bidford or Stratford
Friday 29th	12 pm Midday Circuit Post Christmas Carols and readings with lunch
Sunday 31st	10:30 am Cluster service at Stratford

January

Sunday 7th	Reflective worship led by Deacon Don and Mrs Jean Pritchard
Sunday 14th	Annual Covenant Service with Communion, led by Rev Ros Murphy
Sunday 21st	Morning Worship led by Mrs Anne Yelland
Sunday 28th	No service. Worship at 10:30 am at Mickleton, Bidford or Stratford

Community Choir for Christmas

If you would like to try out this new venture there will be practices at 7.30 p.m. on...

- 29th November in the Methodist Chapel
- 6th December venue to be confirmed
- 13th December in St. Peter's Church

and the opportunity to sing at...

- the Celebration Service in St. Peter's on December 10th at 10.30 a.m.
- the Carol Service in St. Peter's on 17th December at 6.30 p.m.
- Community Carols in the Memorial Hall on Christmas Eve at 6 p.m.

More details available from...
Rev. Ros Greenhalgh (751546)
or Yvette Grundy (750006)

Charlotte Doran Davies Photography

Talking Trees and Tree-mendous gifts

In the Heart of England Forest we want to help reverse centuries of woodland decline, by planting England's largest new native broadleaved woodland, which is accessible to local people and where nature can flourish. Now Autumn is here, its time for the Forest team and volunteers to get on with the job at hand - putting more trees in the ground.

November not only hosts National Tree Week but also heralds the start of the tree planting season, which takes us through until March and the onset of Spring. This year we plan to increase your Forest footprint by a further 280 acres, that's over 140,000 new native trees of more than 26 different species and you can follow our progress by joining in yourself or through our free monthly e-newsletters; sign up on the website to receive yours.

We plan our tree planting to mimic the local dominant woodland type - lowland broadleaved woodland with ash (around Welford, in the south of the Heart of England Forest) or oak (around Spernal, in the north) the dominant species respectively. These woodland types refer to mature woodland and include ground flora as part of the classification description. We cannot, of course, create all aspects of a mature woodland, but aim to plant the major and minor tree species in suitable proportions to kick start the process, allowing the woodlands to develop naturally and take on a character of their own.

The majority of the planting this season will take place on land in Sheriffs Lench, which sits atop a plateau overlooking the Vale of Evesham. With its underlying limestone geology, ash is the dominant tree type for tree planting but herein lies a problem. Due to ash die-back we are not allowed, by law, to plant ash as part of our woodland so substitutes need to be used. Current research shows that sycamore is an alternative, so this will figure in our mix. Although to some sycamore is an aggressive weed tree, and non-native, so should not be planted as part of a native broadleaved mixture. We see it as helpful in making sure some of the species that rely on ash have an alternative tree to use. As ash disappears from our landscape in the short term, as a result of ash dieback, we are hoping that resistant ash will come back into the landscape in the long term.

Visiting Dorothy's, Giddings & Coxmere woods in the Welford area you will experience woodlands around 15 years old that although predominantly ash and oak, also feature tree species such as birch, alder, sycamore, small leaved lime, field maple, cherry, hornbeam. We also plant shrubs including privet, guelder rose, wayfaring tree, spindle, holly, hazel, dogwood and buckthorn.

All the woodlands are also designed with a high proportion of open space in the form of wide grassy 'rides' between woodland blocks. These rides can be up to 20 metres wide with additional, more open, areas 50 metres across. The woodland margins along these rides are very important in any mature woodland as this transition between open ground and high woodland canopy is a 'super highway' where biodiversity is at its peak. We help this by planting flowering trees and shrubs in this zone, providing cover for all manner of creatures, nectar for insects and fruits for birds and mammals to feast on. Trees really are at the heart of the Forest.

Toby Fisher

Charlotte Wright Photography

Trees for celebrations and wonderful memories

In the Heart of England Forest, not only can you enjoy walking amongst the trees and get involved in planting them, you can also dedicate a tree.

Leave your mark in the Forest by dedicating or tagging one of our young, but more established trees for a special occasion or to remember a loved one. Already a popular way to donate, when you visit Dorothy's Wood in Barton why not walk through the tree dedication area and read the individual messages on the trees all around the woodland. There are trees dedicated to pets and parents, trees for the bugs & birds, christening trees, family trees, birthday trees, anniversary trees and of course the 'not your usual' Christmas trees!

Tree dedications do make wonderful gifts for Christmas and throughout the year. They can provide a focal point for family walks, a symbol of a celebration and everyone can get involved with following the route and then looking for their special tree in the area shown on the map provided.

With three different types of dedication there really is something for everyone. From a simple tree dedication with a certificate, to tagging a tree with a personalised message and location map, or how about a tree planting experience when you and your family and friends can join a member of the forestry team for a special visit to the Forest to create an everlasting legacy.

Dedicating a tree not only helps create native woodland it also makes a unique, long lasting and green gift for friends and family to enjoy, through all four seasons, year after year.

Since 1996 we have planted over 1.6 million trees across an area of 3,400 acres in the Heart of England Forest as well as protect over 600 acres of established and ancient woodland, but we have a long way to go to meet our vision of creating 30,000 acres of ideally contiguous native broadleaved woodland. If you would like to take part in planting up the Forest why not join one of our Volunteer Saturdays or mid-week volunteer working parties. Do get in touch – volunteer@hoef.co.uk.
For tree dedications visit the website below to see the options available and place your order. To receive your tree dedication in time for Christmas, please order by Sunday 17th December.

heartofenglandforest.com/dedicate

Attach your own dedication message

How can I get involved?

- **Become a Friend of the Forest:**
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- **Donate your time:**
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- **Dedicate a tree:**
  To mark a special celebration or give as a special gift, even adding a tag with your own message.

For further information visit
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LONG MARSTON AIRFIELD GARDEN VILLAGE

Stratford District Council have launched a public consultation process that will take place in relation to the proposed developments at Long Marston.

We do have some concerns about the whole area with up to 10,000 homes locally in the Stratford, Wychavon and Mickelton area and its effect on the road infrastructure.

1 We have asked for a shuttle train service from the airfield using the branch line to Honeybourne for the London train. We are pleased to say that the Cabinet have asked the officers at SDC to look at it (cycle from Greenway to station).

2 Concern over the B4632 – it needs a figure eight island to make it safer at Clifford and the Milcote Rd which will help to slow traffic down and make it a lot safer.

3 We need an island at the Agro Park for safety and slow traffic through Willicote.

4 4WE are in talks with the Garden centre for a right hand lane.

5 Clifford Mill, where there is a new WCC sign to the nursery school when I believe the entrance should be up the road as the business park.

6 Concern over the increase of traffic through our village - something needs to be done for crossing the road by the shops at Welford and Long Marston. I still think that having a 40MPH limit by the golf course will slow traffic and make it safer for golfers walking to play.

7 New road – I cannot make any comments as I am on the planning committee

Please put your comments in online or to me by email (peter.barnes@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

HOMELESS

After noticing a number of single people living in tents this summer and going to work everyday, I was a bit surprised to find a young couple with a ten week old baby in a tent on the Greenway. I think they had come by train from Tyseley. We did what we could and the baby is in a new home.

CHRISTMAS REFUSE COLLECTIONS

The Monday 25th December collection will be on Wednesday 27th and the New Year collection will be on Tuesday 2nd January and not Monday.

BROADBAND

Cables to take a broadband cabinet were scheduled to be installed in the area during the first week in November.

Cllr Peter Barnes

With the Festive Season approaching, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of Jeanette and myself of wishing you and your families a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Prosperous New Year. It has been an honour and a pleasure to serve each and every one of you since 2013 and during 2017. I look forward to continuing to do so during 2018 and beyond.

It is at special times like this, that we realise how fortunate we are to live in this beautiful part of the Country and for me to have the privilege of serving and working with its very best such good citizens in the Bidford & Welford Ward.

I will prepare a full review of my activities during 2017, including where I spent my Grant money allocation, early next year.

If you have a problem, issues or just can't cope over the festive period, my contact details are below.

Happy Christmas & Good Luck for 2018

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The River Avon and Welford

PART 2 – COMMERCE ON THE AVON

So, the Avon is open to navigation – what goods were being carried? We have the answer through an act regulating the navigation of the river through Warwickshire, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire and for ascertaining the Rates of Water Carriage upon the said river which came into force on 29th September 1751.

This was done to end disputes and determine official rates to be charged for the carriage of goods on the Avon between Worcester and Stratford. The rates were based on delivery between certain points and deliveries between places not specified in the rate chart would be worked out pro-rata by the authorities at each wharf.

The rates were charged to "keep the Avon navigable, for the encouragement of trade and the Benefit and Advantage of the public in general and that the locks, weirs, bucks, winches, turnpikes, dams, floodgates, and other engines may for the future be kept in good and sufficient order and repair".

In the Act there were nineteen separate sections detailing rates for the same commodities between a variety of different points from Worcester to Stratford and this is just one of them:

"For every ton of Wine, Cyder, Merchants goods of every kind, two shillings and four pence; for every Wey (a measure of weight for dry goods) of wheat, barley, malt, beans, pease, oats, masline (mixed grain especially rye and wheat), linseed, cutlings not traced, clover, meal and flour; one shilling and eight pence; for every ton of cast or pig iron, Brick, Stone, lime, coopers, carpenters, wheelrights and other timber, Board and firewood, per ton, six pence; for coal of every kind, per ton, one shilling and six pence; for Bar-Iron (iron in non-malleable bars), lead, polished stone and all other things not particularly specified, per ton, Nine pence. Carried or sent from Evesham to Tewkesbury or the Severn or to Stratford, or any place between the Severn and Tewkesbury and Stratford sluice or Stratford and Luddington sluice".

At the wharf on the Binton side of the river (by the Binton Bridges) osiers and milled grain from a mill on that bank would be collected and coals delivered and it was also a turning place for vessels. The dues on merchandise then belonged to the owner of the Four Alls.

When the Millennium site was being cleared we knew there had been a wharf in the area where the osier bed now is and hoped remains of the wharf would be found as it would strengthen our bid with the Heritage Fund of the National Lottery. There was not a trace of it and, perhaps not just because of that, the application was turned down.

There was another wharf just before Mill House at the bottom of Mill Lane, where Martin and Sheila Greenwood used to live. Martin said that when he was clearing an area of ground on the river side of the house he came across coal and pieces of crockery.

This wharf would be very close to the next door Bear Inn or Boat Inn as it was renamed, more of which in another issue.

We have a good picture of the goods travelling up and down the river but what of the boats?

At the top of the page is an impression of a typical Avon barge in the time of William Sandys, the early days of navigation on the river. The drawing is based on a combination of sketches and woodcuts in Stratford and Evesham libraries and vessels operating on other navigations in the 17th century. These barges were flat bottomed, mainly carried a single

square sail and had cargos of up to 30 tons. Steering was by a large paddle on smaller boats and a rudder on the larger ones.

When not using the prevailing south-westerly winds (upstream) – and these were more prevalent on the Lower Navigation - the boats had to be towed, not by horses as on a canal towpath, but by teams of men – no horses were used on the Avon. These men were known as 'bow-hauliers' and would be members of the crew or hired hands. 'Bow' refers to bows tied in the tow-line helping the men to better grip the rope.

In a book published in 1845 it says –"Horses were not employed to draw the barges at first, nor are they now. At a huge heavy-laden craft, five or six strong men may be seen tugging laboriously – it is a painful sight to see these men dragging their barge along this river".

The tow-line was attached to the top of the mast and this was done to avoid snagging the line on trees and to stop the bows being pulled close to the bank.

At the base of the mast a pivot point is shown which enables the mast to be brought down when having to go under a bridge with restricted headroom.

There is also a picture, from Monmouth museum, of bow hauliers on the River Wye.

At bridges downstream craft could simply drift with the current, using a long shaft of wood to keep the ▶

boat away from the masonry. Upstream traffic required a more complicated procedure. While the boat was being held just downstream of the bridge a coil of rope would be carried up on to the bridge; then a log would be tied to one of its ends and dropped over the upstream parapet, the other end being held firmly by the crew man on the bridge. When the log had floated down to the waiting boat, the new rope which passed through the arch would replace the previous other one and the boat would be pulled through.

An interesting anecdote about the bow-hauliers was farmers objecting to them "crossing their fields as they were known to be rough on other waterways and apt to steal hens, geese, ducks, pigs, swans, eggs, wood and other such commodities. Many were honest but there were scoundrels amongst them".

There are two engravings from 1806, both at Stratford. In one the barge appears to be making ready to take on cargo, there is a barrel, some millstones and other items. The second shows a loaded barge under sail with Holy Trinity in the background. In a local guidebook printed in 1814 it says barges of about 40 tons came up to Stratford.

The following illustration is of a barge in 1795 at Bidford, with St Laurence's church in the background. The boat is at rest and it looks as though the smaller boat may be bringing crew or passengers to the barge.

The Bee, a steam barge that first appeared on the Avon in1862 operated to Stratford, largely serving Lucy's Mill, during the years when the navigation was still open. The Bee was capable of towing three barges. In an account from 1827 it was reported – " A steam vessel had been worked on the river from Bristol to Stratford mills and some spirited individuals are about forming a company establishing regular communications between Stratford and Bristol. This steamer was owned by Robert Lucy & Son of Stratford and it was hoped that it would supply their need for 3000 bushels of Irish corn a week".

A typical steam barge

The photograph on the right, taken in Weston Church shows a boat which was said to be a common sight on the river delivering salt from Droitwich to riverside villages as early as the 15th century.

There are two long windows in the church showing a large number of these boats but the one depicted is the only one with a crown and Michael Hale, who had given a talk on the church to the History Society, said that despite much research he was unable to trace the reason for this. The vessel, incidentally, is part of the coat of arms of Joyce Cokesey, second wife of John Greville who bought Milcote and paid for the building of Weston Church. Some of the Cokeseys wealth came from owning a salt mine which could explain why the boat featured in the windows. Salt was, of course, a vital ingredient in preserving food and had been mined at Droitwich since before the Romans came to England - there is evidence there may have been mining in the Iron Age.

In the 1700's there were about 400 barges on the Avon, most carrying ca 30 tons weight, although vessels of 40 to 50 tons were in use and one, the 'Good Intent' from Tewkesbury at 47 tons, was trading between there and Stratford in 1795.

By 1873 the steamboat Bee was the only craft left trading on the Upper Avon.

Barrie Russell

Coming in Part 3 –
Floods and frozen rivers

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The Local Music Scene

I hope all you music lovers get a chance to hear some live music over the festive period. Details of upcoming events can be seen in the What's On section and it is worth visiting local venue websites to see what they have to offer.

I notice that Susie's Cafe Bar at The Other Place are now hosting free live music on the first Thursday of every month details can be found at rsc.co.uk/events/play-on-live-music. Recent performances have included Ben Maggs and Tori Rushton & Magik River. Local band Meet on the Ledge celebrated 25 years in the business with sell out concert nights at the Other Place in October which were very well received according to enthusiastic audience members I spoke to.

In this issue there is a profile of up and coming local band Mixtape Saints, it is definitely worth checking out their new single.

Colin Winston

Live Music Venues

Stratford ArtsHouse : probably Stratford's premiere music venue with an eclectic mix of musical events. 01789 207100 - stratfordartshouse.co.uk/whats-on

Stratford Jazz Club : organise high quality events on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month from September to June at both the Arts House and a new venue – the Riverside, Tiddington - stratfordjazz.org.uk/whats-on

Keys & Kitchen : Ely Street - live music every Thursday and most Sundays. For full programme visit keysandkitchen.co.uk/type27hchild/events

Stratford Folk Club : Acoustic evenings 1st & 3rd Wednesdays in the month plus occasional concert nights during the year at Stratford Ale House, Greenhall Street - stratforduponavonfolkclub.co.uk

No 1 Shakespeare : Cocktail bar/Nightclub that also hosts live music on a Friday evening shakespeare-street-cocktailbar.co.uk

Cottage of Content, Barton : live music every Saturday night from 9pm . Open mic nights from 9pm on the last Friday of every month with all welcome to bring along their talent and their instrument. cottageofcontent.com

The Mason's Arms, Long Marston : occasional music evenings and also for special events – 01789 720586 - masons-arms-pub.co.uk

The Cross Keys, Alcester : Live music most weekends - 01789 764389. Often advertised on the Stratford on Avon Music Scene group on Facebook - facebook.com/groups/222168531129315

The Old Tramway Inn, Shipston Road, Stratford : Occasional music nights – see What's On for details. Open Mic evenings 3rd Sunday in the month. 01789 297593 www.theoldtramwayinn.co.uk

What's On

Divertimento's Christmas
Sunday 3rd December 3:00 pm at Guild Chapel, Chapel Lane, Stratford CV37 8TY
Divertimento, Sheila Koch conductor. Free admission.

Michael Foyle (violin), Maksim Stsura (piano)
Sunday 3rd December 7:30 pm at Shakespeare Institute, Church Street, Stratford CV37 6HP
Mozart Sonata in A K526, Beethoven Sonata in G Op 96, Brahms Sonata in D minor Op 108, Kreisler Fantasia on Viennese themes. Tickets £18/£5 students from Stratford ArtsHouse 01789 207100 or 01789 740791 (Stratford-upon-Avon Chamber Music Society)

Prelude to Christmas
Saturday 16th December 7:30 pm at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6BG
Stratford Choral Society, Stephen Dodsworth conductor – Carols, music and readings for Christmas. Tickets £12 from Stratford ArtsHouse 01789 207100 and 01608 682049

Christmas Cracker at The Shakespeare Inn
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MIXTAPE SAINTS

Mixtape Saints are a Stratford/Birmingham-based band who are rapidly making a name for themselves on the UK music scene. The band have just released a new digital single, Heartbreak, Radio, Cars and Rain, through Disconnect Disconnect Records, to much acclaim from the national music press. Recording and production for the recent release was mainly done by band member Dan Kiener from a bedroom in Long Marston – fortunately for the neighbours, drums were recorded in a nearby studio!

Heartbreak, Radio, Cars and Rain is available as a 2-track single release, featuring a full band version of the title track on one side and an acoustic rendition on the other. You can listen to or download the single through most digital platforms: iTunes, Spotify, YouTube, Bandcamp etc. I was very impressed by the quality of the production, how tight the band sound and despite the high energy of the full band version how melodic the song is. The single also has some great cover artwork:

The origins of Mixtape Saints go back to 2012, when local musician Dan Kiener met up with Sam Moloney at an acoustic evening in the old Stratford Cinema bar. They soon realised that they had similar musical interests and since then have gone through various incarnations resulting in the current line-up of Sam Moloney - Vocals/Guitar/Songwriter, Dan Kiener – Guitar/Vocals, Mark Bussey – Bass and George Bussell – Drums.

The band's musical style can be described as Punk/Rock/Soul and their better-known influences include The Clash, Green Day, Foo Fighters with a seasoning of Motown and Decca.

Some residents may remember Dan Kiener when he attended Welford School during the 1990s and subsequently KES, before he went on to study Popular Music and Sound Engineering at Bretton Hall College (Leeds University). After graduating, Dan toured the world (Europe, Asia, North America) as a sound engineer with a number of bands including íForward, Russia! and The Gaslight Anthem (who on one memorable occasion were joined by Bruce Springsteen). More recently, Dan has toured India with the band Thumpers who include two fellow KES alumni – Marcus Ratcliff and Jack Hamson. Dan also spent some time in Toronto taking a post-grad sound engineering qualification followed by an internship as a sound editor on the TV shows Lost Girl and Hatfields & McCoys (for which he received an Emmy nomination!).

Exciting times lie ahead for Mixtape Saints. You can see details of upcoming gigs on their Facebook page - @mixtapesaints but they are also back in the "recording studio" in Long Marston producing a 12 inch vinyl EP (some readers may remember playing EPs on their Dansettes). This is a joint venture with an American band Wolves & Wolves & Wolves & Wolves from South Carolina. Each band will have about 4 songs on the EP which is due for release in late 2017/early 2018. Who knows, there could be a Christmas number 1 in the pipeline!

Colin Winston

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Wine & Me

SEASONAL FLAVOURS

Here at Church Street Tastings HQ the husband is lamenting the end of summer. It's his favourite time of year; he just loves the long days, the BBQs and of course the wine! He's been spoilt rotten with delicate Rosé wines from Provence, delightfully refreshing Verdejo from Spain and some charming bubbles from Chapel Down to name but a few.

But now I'm in my element, the leaves are an amazing array of colours. Even when we have bright blue skies I get to light the log burner and snuggle up with my box set, blanket and my glass of red.

I find myself returning to old favourites, such as Pinot Noir, like a favourite jumper. It offers a certain comfort at this time of year, easing me back in to the comforting world of soft silky red with delicate fruity aromas and delicious red fruit flavours.

Now, I know, not everyone switches from white to red as soon as the clocks go back and nor should you! What you should always absolutely do in any wine drinking scenario is drink what you like and whenever possible what you love.

I'm always thinking of food and which wine to drink, whether it's an aperitif to a meal or to have with the meal or what will be suitable after the meal! I do try and take the seasonal flavours and cooking method into consideration.

I think of winter wines as richer, bolder, spicier, and more plush than what you'd drink in the summer months. Just like you dress in layers for the colder weather, you'll want to look for wines that have layers — offering complexity and depth. And whilst we would perhaps then be drawn to the idea of red wines as the cuisine gets richer and the weather gets colder, there's no reason to stop drinking white wine in the winter but you may want to look for a different style.

For white wines with a little more richness and body, go for Chardonnay, Viognier, Roussanne, Semillon or maybe a Godello, from Spain. All of these work really well with white meats and fuller-bodied fish dishes. Chenin Blanc from South Africa also has that comforting cushioned richness that seems just right on a colder evening.

For lovers of the delicious Malbec from Argentina, you may like to look at a Chilean Carmenere. This grape, originally from Bordeaux, gives a rich, medium to full bodied wine which is full from blackberry and blackcurrant fruits. It would go perfectly with your roast dinner, crumble and custard, and then happily keep you company for the rest of the afternoon.

If you are looking for wines to take to a Christmas party, give as a gift or enjoy with your Christmas dinner, why not join us at our next "Pop up Wine Sale & Tasting". We'd love to meet you, and hear about your old favourite wines and help you find some new ones!

Kerry Williams

Love Wine?
Stay in touch and sign up on our website churchstreettastings.co.uk or find us on Facebook all upcoming events will be updated.

CHURCH STREET TASTINGS

Saturday 25th November 'Christmas at The Barn' Christmas Event at The Barn Antiques. From 10 am until 5 pm at Station Road, Long Marston, CV37 8RP

Saturday 2nd December – Winter Wine Tasting 5-8 pm at The Shakespeare Inn, Chapel Street, Welford on Avon, CV37 8PX.

Remembrance

Welford & Weston Remembrance Service was held on Friday 10th November, being the closest day to remembrance day and of course remembrance Sunday. This year's event was attended by about 90 school children from Welford School, and similar to last year four pupils from Year 6 read poems that they had created in school. All 33 year 6 poems are now on the Parish Council website below. The Union Flag was raised and lowered by Mr John Harris, our Flag captain.

The service was conducted by Mr David Hastie, chair of the Stratford branch of the Royal British Legion with Prayers being read by the Reverend Ros Murphy, Methodist Church Minister.

welfordonavon.com

STRATFORD on AVON DC LICENSING AUTHORITY LICENSING ACT 2003

Public Notice

KERRY WILLIAMS is applying for the **new grant** of a **Premises License** for

CHURCH STREET TASTINGS, CHURCH STREET, WELFORD ON AVON, WARWICKSHIRE, CV37 8EJ.

If granted the application will allow the following licensable activities to take place:

Sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises

Any person wishing to make representations in relation to this application may do so by writing to:

Licensing Authority
Stratford on Avon DC, Elizabeth House,
Church St, Stratford on Avon
CV367 6HX

Tel: 01789 260832
Fax: 01789 260809
Email: licensing@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Representations may be made for 28 consecutive days from the date of this notice.

A copy of the application for the grant of the above licence is kept by Licensing Authority at the above address. The application can be view Monday to Thursday 9am to 5pm and 9am to 4.30pm on Fridays, except bank holidays.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for making a false statement is a Level 5 fine on the standard scale.

Friday 3rd November 2017

B.C.L

Bidford Community Library, Bramley Way, Bidford

Monday and Tuesday 10.00am to 4.30pm

Friday 10.00am to 6.00pm, Saturday 10.00am to 12 noon

Email: bidfordlibrary@gmail.com Telephone 01789 773239.

At our community hub we offer activities and social groups so we are much more than just a library. Call in and see us!

Bidford-on-Avon Tennis Club

(Behind the Crawford Memorial Hall, Salford Road, Bidford)

Well-established, 2 court friendly tennis club
Use of floodlights for evening play

Awarded the Clubmark by the Lawn Tennis Association
All ages and abilities welcome. Coaching available.

Club nights: Thursday evenings from 7.00pm,
Paul Callaghan: Membership Secretary on: 01789 778811
or www.bidfordtennisclub.co.uk

Welford Cricket Club – Comedy Night

Saturday, 9th December 8:00 pm – 11:30 pm , Welford Memorial Hall

The return of comedy to Welford Memorial Hall with professional comedians Harvey Hawkins, Rob Coleman and Steve Day providing pre-Christmas cheer. Returning as compere will be Pete Teckman who took the mic for last year's gigs. Recently awarded Leicester Comedy Festival Silver Stand-up winner 2017, Pete performs all around the country and has carefully sourced all the acts for this event –

Harvey Hawkins, contender for the 2016 BBC New Comedy Award, hails from Stratford-upon-Avon so will be on home ground

Rob Coleman describes himself as a 'sharp gag based act' but also does a nice line in observational comedy. His good sense of humour will almost certainly be needed when he departs on a mission to row across the Atlantic in December of this year!

Headlining will be **Steve Day**. Steve describes himself as Britains only deaf comedian, if there are any others he hasn't heard. Actually there are a couple of others who have started since he wrote that joke, but it's only a joke after all.

For the past eleven years Steve has been performing to huge laughter around the country and abroad, well they tell him the laughter was huge to humour him, he doesn't know either way.

Married with five children, a fact nothing to do with not being able to hear the word 'No', Steve has been described as 'warm and witty' by the Scotsman and has received many other rave reviews whilst performing shows at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Chortle.co.uk gave him five stars in 2007 for Deafy's Island Discs, a show The Sunday Times called 'Funny and Moving'. This show toured the UK in 2008, Steve's third national tour of the uk, and has been performed in several countries in Europe and translated into Italian. No-one knows why.

A familiar voice on Radio 4, Steve has appeared many times on You and Yours, was a token man on Woman's Hour, has appeared in two radio dramas, All Fingers and Thumbs with Bill Nighy, whom he punched dramatically, and Sound Barriers with Patricia Routledge and Caroline Quentin, both of whom he was prevented from punching.

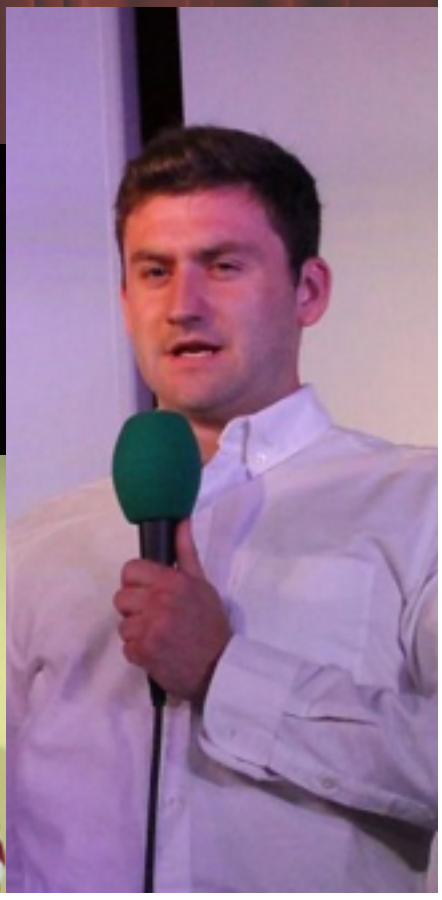
A disabled performer, Steve is more concerned with success in the mainstream comedy circuit, but is happy to 'deaf it up' as necessary if the money is ok and there are sandwiches.

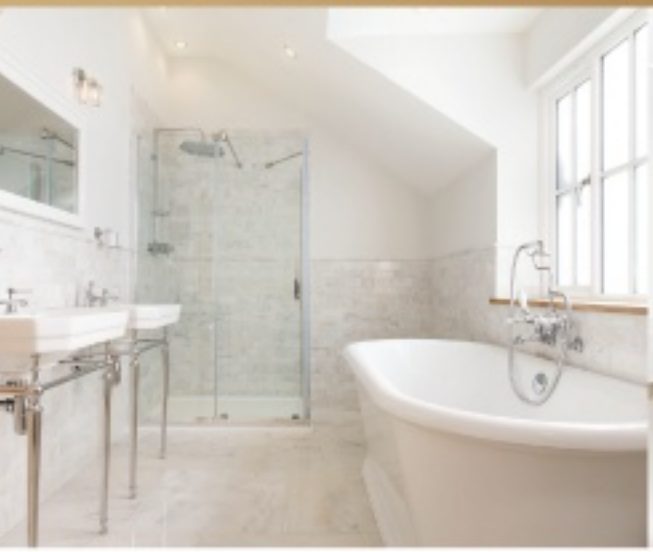
All profits from the evening will go to the Welford Cricket Club. Bar will be run by Wyn Owen and wine will be chosen by someone other than Wyn!

Tickets are available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/welfordsportsclub or from Maypole Butchers or the Bell Public House

For information on the evening contact me at my email address below.

Chris Dobson
dobspoon@gmail.com





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Meon Vale Activites

Nosh and Natter - Lunches for older and disabled people
Usually held on the second Monday in the month. 11:30 am to 2 pm at the Ashwin Suite, Stratford Agri Park
11th December Christmas Buffet and Entertainment
Help us celebrate the start of our 5th year.
Please note December Lunch will be at Quinton Village Hall from 12 – 3.30 pm. Cost £7.00 per person, Transport can be provided (£3 return)
8th January - Winter Warmer
12th February- Early Valentine

Parent/Carer, Toddler and Babies Group
Every Thursday 10:15 am to 11:45 am at Meon Vale Village Hall. We welcome all babies and toddlers from 0-5. No charge - come along and enjoy, special Babies Corner, play, craft, singing and fun. Refreshments are supplied. A good meeting place for mums, dads and grandparents. Open over school holidays when older siblings are welcome. Please note that we will be closed on Thursday 28th December.

Trips 4 U (suitable for 55+)
Forthcoming day trips – Come along and enjoy the day. Plenty to see and do – Comfort Stops either way – Johnsons Coaches
Cinderella Pantomime
Wednesday 17th January Birmingham Hippodrome
Matinee performance of Cinderella. Cast is Beverly Knight, Danny Mac, Matt Slack, The Grumbleweeds, Ceri Dupree, Phil Randall. We will arrive at Birmingham at midday so that we can all have lunch at a Chinese restaurant or the Green Café opposite the Theatre. The cost is £36 - a £20 deposit is needed by 9th October. Balance due by 11th December.

It's Christmas Hamper Time Again
Hamper donations 'til 8th December. Please bring to Meon Medical Centre. Non-perishable and in-date items ONLY please. Volunteers needed for Hamper assembly or delivery. Nominate a known possible Hamper beneficiary with name and contact number by 15th December.

The Ark (Messy Church – ideal for families)
Activities, craft, singing and finishing with refreshments. Fourth Saturday in each month 4:30 pm – 5:45pm, 26th November (no meeting in December as Crib Services will be organised in your local churches), 27th January. Come and join in the family fun, ending with a hot meal, fruit, cake and squash. Contact Revd. Ros on 751546 or Barbara on 720630

Family Breakfast Club
Saturday 16th December 9 - 10:30 am Lower Quinton Village Hall. Bacon/Sausage rolls, warm croissants with cheese/ham and toast. Hot and Cold Drinks. Come along and have Breakfast whilst children play or do craft. Contact Clara on 721018 or Barbara on 720630

Drop-in Coffee Mornings
At Corbett House on the fourth Monday in the month, unless otherwise stated, between 10:30 am – 12 noon. 17th December (will start at 11 – Bingo and buffet lunch), 22nd January, 26th February

Carols by Candle Light at Meon Vale Village Hall
9th December. Father Christmas arrives at 4.30 pm – No charge. Carols at 5:15 pm, followed by Mince Pies and Mulled wine at 5:45 pm. Grand Tombola all evening, tickets 5 for £1. Free entry.All welcome come along and help us celebrate. Contact Revd. Ros on 751546 or Barbara on 720630

Christmas Prize Bingo
Meon Vale Village Hall, Saturday 16th December, 7 pm for 7:30 pm start: Children over 10 welcome. Great prizes, snacks and non-alcoholic drinks provided. Bring your own booze: Raffle. In aid of QPA and Meon Community Fund

For more information about any of the events listed, please contact me.
Barbara Craig 720630

The Mystery of the Welford Stones

Whilst out walking, I noticed decorative stones had suddenly appeared around the village. I have no idea of their origin or purpose, but my best guesses are:

- The Welford Druid Society preparing for the solstice
- Pokémon-style collectables to catch, trade and battle
- Banksy

If anyone has a better theory or even a definite answer, please write to Welford Matters and let me know!
Matthew Winston

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5. Chocolate Buttons
6. Bounty
7. Tic-Tac
8. Quality Street
9. Wine Gums
10. Snickers
11. All Gold
12. Picnic
13. Bulls Eyes
14. Topic
15. Black Magic
16. Turkish Delight
17. Kit Kat
18. Eclair
19. Maltesers
20. Mars Bar
21. Roses
22. Smarties
23. Jelly Baby
24. Pear Drops
25. Aniseed Balls

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Get the festive season off to a great start with the

Memorial Hall Annual Village Christmas Party

Enjoy a buffet supper, bar, singing and dancing to

Dave Simms Disco

At 7:30pm on Saturday 16th of December

Tickets are great value at just £7.50

We look forward to seeing you

Tickets available from

Alan Smart 750090, Annette Seeley 751477, Carole Deakin 750342,

Julia Worsey 750879, Peter Hook 751400

or welfordmemorialhall@gmail.com

What's on in Welford

St Peter's Family Toy Service
11:00 am Sunday, 19th November - Memorial Hall

Parish Council Planning Meeting
7:15 pm Tuesday, 21st November - Chapel Rooms

History Society : Stratford & Moreton Tramway
7:30 pm Friday, 24th November - Memorial Hall

Men's Breakfast
10:00 am Saturday, 2nd December - St Peter's Church Rooms

Church Street Tastings - Winter Wine Tasting
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Saturday 2nd December - Shakespeare Inn

Mobile Library Service
2:00 pm Tuesday, 5th December - Various Locations

Parish Council Meeting
7:15 pm Tuesday, 5th December - Memorial Hall

Welford Wives Christmas Lunch
10:00 am Wednesday, 6th December
- Contact Sue Hook

Welford Cricket Club - Comedy Night
8:00 pm Saturday, 9th December - Memorial Hall

St Peter's Celebration Service
10:30 am Sunday, 10th December - St Peter's Church

St Peter's Messy Christmas
4:00 pm Sunday, 10th December - Memorial Hall

Parish Council Planning Meeting
7:15 pm Tuesday, 12th December - Chapel Rooms

Dickensian Night
Charity night for Alzheimer Society
7:00 pm Tuesday, 12th December - The Bell Inn

Christmas Cracker - Live Music
3:00 pm till late Saturday, 16th December - Shakespeare Inn

Village Christmas Party
7:30 pm Saturday, 16th December - Memorial Hall

Carol Service
11:00 am Sunday, 17th December - Methodist Church

Carol Service
6:30 pm Sunday, 17th December - St Peter's Church

Community Carols
6:00 pm Saturday, 23rd December - Memorial Hall

Men's Breakfast
10:00 am Saturday, 6th January - St Peter's Church Rooms

History Society : Victorian & Edwardian Photographers
7:30 pm Friday 26th January - Memorial Hall

Village Directory

Local Council

Parish Council	
Chairman	Simon Carter
Parish Clerk	Cat Price
Finance, Deputy Chair	Peter Martin
Planning, Synder Meadow	Jamie Hockaday
Traffic, Flood Action Group	Debbie Jones
Village Maintenance, School Liaison	James Kimpton
Community Liaison, Cress Hill	Colleen Reichling
Footpaths, Defibrillators	Brian Stanford
Responsible Finance Officer	John Wibberley
Parish Website Manager	Colin Winston

T: 0771 521 1340 (office hours only please)
E: welfordpc@yahoo.co.uk

District Councillor
Peter Barnes
T: 01789 750837
E: peter.barnes@stratford-dc.gov.uk

County Councillor
Mike Brain
T: 01789 720728
E: cllrbrain@warwickshire.gov.uk

Community

Allotments
Linda Horrocks
E: peterhorrocks@doctors.net.uk

Art Group
T: 01789 750940 (Jill Rose)

History Society
T: 01789 750716 (Brad Plimmer)

Knitting for Crisis
T: 01789 750329 (Jan Harris)

Oil Consortium
T: 01789 750793 (Glenis Dyer)
E: glenisdyer@gmail.com

Over 60s Club
T: 01789 750580 (Jean Stone)

Scout & Guide Groups
T: 01789 750650 (Cathy Millwood)

Welford Wives
T: 01789 751400 (Sue Hook)

Police Community Support Officer
Becky Morris
T: 07823 533488

Safer Neighbourhood Team
E: alcestersouth.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

Sports

Sports Club
T: 01789 751488 (Chris Fox)

Bowls Club
T: 01789 750531 (Marjorie Woodhall)

Cricket Club
T: 07974 147182 (Wyn Owen)

Football Club
W: welfordfootballclub.co.uk

Amenities

The Bell
T: 01789 750353
W :thebellwelford.co.uk

The Four Alls
T: 01789 751329
W: thefourallswelfordonavon.co.uk

Maypole Butchers
T: 01789 750213
E: maypolebutchers@gmail.com
W: maypolebutchers.co.uk

Maypole Stores
T: 01789 750266

Memorial Hall
T: 07548 129880

Methodist Church
Ros Murphy
T: 01789 740538
E: RM0LJ8JR0@gmail.com

St Peter's Church
Rev Ros Greenhaigh
T: 01789 751546

The Shakespeare
T: 01789 751116
W: theshakespeareinnwelford.co.uk

Welford Garage
T: 01789 750200

Welford on Avon Primary School
T: 01789 750 214

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